

DEF. DOC. #1947

not used

FOLLOWING STATEMENT WAS ISSUED AFTER THE EXTRAORDINARY
CABINET MEETING SEPT. 24. 1931

(1) The Japanese Government has constantly been exercising honest endeavors, in pursuance of its settled policy, to foster friendly relations between Japan and China and to promote the common prosperity and well-being of the two countries. Unfortunately, the conduct of officials and individuals of China for some year past has been such that our national sentiment has frequently been irritated. In particular, unpleasant incidents have taken place one after another in the regions of Manchuria and Mongolia in which Japan is interested in an especial degree, until the impression has gained strength in the minds of the Japanese people that Japan's fair and friendly attitude is not atmosphere of perturbation and anxiety thus created, a detachment of Chinese troops destroyed the tracks of the South Manchuria Railway in the vicinity of Mukden and attacked our railway guards at midnight on September 18th; a clash between the Japanese and Chinese troops then took place.

(2) The situation became critical, as the number of the Japanese guards stationed along the entire railway did not then exceed ten thousand four hundred, while there were in juxtaposition some two hundred and twenty thousand Chinese soldiers. Moreover, hundreds of thousands of Japanese residents were placed in jeopardy. In order to forestall an imminent disaster, the Japanese army had to act swiftly. Chinese soldiers garrisoned in the neighbouring localities were disarmed and the duty of

DEF. DOC. #1947

maintaining peace and order was left in the hands of the local Chinese organizations under the supervision of Japanese troops.

(3) These measures having been taken, our soldiers were mostly withdrawn within the railway zone. There still remain some detachments in Mukden and Kirin and a small number of men in a few other places, but nowhere does a state of military occupation as such exist. The reports that Japanese authorities have seized the customs or the saltgabelle office at Yingkou, or that they have taken control of the Chinese railways between Saupingkai and Chengchiatun or between Mukden and Sinmintun are entirely untrue, nor has the story of our troops having ever been sent north of Changchun or into Chientao any foundation in fact.

(4) The Japanese Government, at the special cabinet meeting of September 19th, took the decision that all possible efforts should be made to prevent the aggravation of the situation, and instructions to that effect were given to the Commander of the Manchurian Garrison. It is true that a detachment was dispatched from Changchun to Kirin on September 21st, but it was not with a view to military occupation but only for the purpose of removing a menace to the South Manchuria Railway on its flank. As soon as that object has been attained, the bulk of our detachment will be withdrawn. It may be added that while a mixed brigade of four thousand men was sent from Korea to join Manchurian Garrison, the total number of men in the Garrison at present still remains within the limit set by treaty, and that fact cannot therefore be regarded as having in any way added to the seriousness of international situation.

DEF. DOC. #1947

(5) It may be superfluous to repeat that the Japanese Government harbor no territorial designs in Manchuria. What we desire is that Japanese subjects shall be enabled safely to engage in various peaceful pursuits and be given the opportunity of participating in the development of that land by means of capital and labor. It is the proper duty of a government to protect rights and interests legitimately enjoyed by the nation or individuals. The endeavors of the Japanese Government to guard the South Manchuria Railway against wanton attacks should be viewed in no other light. The Japanese Government, true to its established policy, is prepared to co-operate with the Chinese Government in order to prevent the present incident from developing into a disastrous situation between the two countries and to work out such constructive plans as will once for all eradicate causes for future friction. The Japanese Government would be more than gratified if the present difficulty could be brought to a solution which will give a new turn to the mutual relations of the two countries.

DEF. DOC. #1947

CERTIFICATE OF SOURCE AND AUTHENTICITY

I, HAYASHI, Kaoru, who occupy the post of the Chief of the
Archives of Foreign Office, hereby certify that the document hereto
attached, written in Japanese, and English consisting of J. 3
E. 3
pages and entitled "Following Statement was Issued After The Extraordinary
Sep. 24, 1931.
Cabinet meeting" is an exact and authorized excerpt from an official
document in the custody of Japanese Government (Foreign Office).

certified at Tokyo,

on this 26 day of July, 1947

/s/ HAYASHI, Kaoru
(seal)

I hereby certify that the above signature and seal were affixed
hereto in the presence of the Witness.

at the same place,

on this same date

Witness: /s/ URABE, Katsura
(seal)

Def Doc 1947

not used

文書ノ出所並ニ成立ニ關スル證明書 (三號)

自分等 等ハ外務省文書課長ノ職ニ居ル者ナル處、茲
ニ添附セラレタル日本語及び英語ニ依ツテ書カレ日本
語三頁英語三頁ヨリ成ル滿洲事變ニ關スル帝國政府第
一次聲明 (昭和六年九月二十四日) ト題スル書類ハ日
本政府 (外務省) ノ保管ニ係ル公文書ノ正確ニシテ眞
實ナル寫ナルコトヲ證明ス

昭和二十二年七月 二十六日 於東京

林

印

右署名捺印ハ自分ノ面前ニ於テ爲サレタリ

同日 於 同 所

立會人 浦 部 勝 馬 印



Ref Doc 1947

2

滿洲事變ニ關スル帝國政府第一次聲明

(昭和六年九月二十四日)

一 帝國政府ハ常ニ日華兩國ノ親交ヲ篤クシ共存共榮ノ實ヲ擧クルコトヲ一定ノ方針トシ終始之カ實現ヲ期シテ苦心努力シ來レリ不幸ニシテ過去數年間中國官民ノ言動ハ屢々我國民的感情ヲ刺戟スルモノアリ殊ニ我國ノ最緊密ナル利害關係ヲ有スル滿蒙地方ニ於テ最近不快ナル事 件 頻發シ竟ニ我友好公正ナル政策モ中國側ヨリ同一ノ精神ヲ以テ酬ユル所トナラサルカ如キ印象ヲ我國民一般ノ心裡ニ與ヘ物情騷然タルニ當リ偶々九月十八日夜半奉天附近ニ於テ中國軍隊ノ一部ハ南滿洲鐵道ノ線路ヲ破壞シ我守備隊ヲ襲撃シ之ト衝突スルニ至レリ

ニ 當時滿鐵沿線ヲ守備セル日本軍ノ兵力ハ總計僅ニ一萬四百ヲ過キサリシニ反シ其ノ四邊ニハ二十二萬ノ中國軍隊アリ事態俄ニ急迫ヲ告ケ之ト共ニ同地方ニ居住スル百萬ノ帝國臣民モ亦重大ナル不安ノ狀ニ陥リタルニ顯ミ我軍隊ハ機先ヲ制シテ危險ノ原因ヲ艾除スルノ必要ヲ認メ此ノ目的ノタメ迅速ニ行動ヲ開始シテ抵抗ヲ排除シ附近ニ駐屯スル中國軍隊ノ武裝ヲ解キ地方治安ノ維持ニ付テハ中國ノ自治機關ヲ督勵シテ其ノ任ニ當ラシメタリ



Def Doc 1947

三 我軍隊ハ前記ノ目的ヲ遂行スルヤ概ネ鐵道附屬地
内ニ歸還集結シ目下附屬地外ニアリテハ警戒ノ爲奉
天城内吉林ニ若干ノ部隊並ニ數個ノ地點ニ少數ノ兵
員ヲ配置スト雖何レモ軍事占領ニ非ス或ハ帝國官憲
カ營口税關又ハ鹽務署ヲ占領セリト云ヒ或ハ四平街
鄭家屯間、又ハ奉天新民屯間ノ中國鐵道ヲ管理セリ
ト云フカ如キ流説ハ全然誤傳ニ止マリ長春以北又ハ
間島ニ我軍隊ノ出動セリト云フモ亦事實無根ナリ

四 帝國政府ハ九月十九日緊急閣議ヲ開キテ此ノ上事
態ヲ擴大セシメサルコトニ極力努ムルノ方針ヲ決シ
陸軍大臣ヨリ之ヲ滿洲駐屯軍司令官ニ訓令セリ九月
二十一日長春ヨリ吉林ニ一部隊出動セルモ是レ同地
方ノ軍事占領ヲ行ハンカ爲ニ非スシテ滿鐵ニ對スル
側面ヨリノ脅威ヲ除カムトセルニ外ナラス從テ此ノ
目的ヲ達スルニ至ラハ我出動部隊ノ大部分ハ直ニ長
春ニ歸還スル筈ナリ尙九月二十一日ニ至リ滿鐵沿線
ノ不安ニ鑑ミ朝鮮駐屯軍ヨリ混成一旅團兵員四千ヲ
新ニ滿洲駐屯軍司令官ノ麾下ニ屬セシメタルモ滿洲
駐屯軍ノ總兵數ハ尙條約所定ノ制限内ニ止マリ固ヨ
リ對外關係ニ於ケル事態ヲ擴大セルモノト謂フヘカ
ラス



帝國政府カ滿洲ニ於テ何等ノ領土的慾望ヲ有セサ
 ルハ茲ニ反覆續説スルノ要ナシ我カ期待スル所ハ畢
 竟帝國臣民カ安ンシテ各般ノ平和的事業ニ從事シ其
 ノ資本又ハ勞力ヲ以テ地方ノ開發ニ參加スルノ機會
 ヲ得セシムトスルニアリ自國並自國臣民ノ正當ニ享
 有スル權利利益ヲ擁護スルハ政府當然ノ職責ニシテ
 滿鐵ニ對スル危害ヲ排除セムトスルモ亦此ノ趣旨ニ
 外ナラス帝國政府ハ固ヨリ日華善隣ノ誼ヲ重ンスル
 ニ於テ既定ノ方針ヲ恪守スルモノナルカ故ニ今次ノ
 不祥事ヲシテ國交ノ破壞ニ至ラシメス更ニ進ンテ禍
 根ヲ將來ニ斷ツヘキ建設的方策ヲ講セムカ爲誠意中
 國政府ト協カスルノ覺悟ヲ有ス之ニヨリテ兩國間現
 下ノ難局ヲ打開シ禍ヲ轉シテ福ト爲スコトヲ得ハ帝
 國政府ノ欣幸之ニ如カサルナリ

Ref Doc 1947

